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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Herve Foubert

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YOUNG & THOMPSON
745 SOUTH 23RD STREET
2ND FLOOR
ARLINGTON, VA 22202

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DINH Q

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3752

DATE MAILED: 06/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. This application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. These species are deemed to lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

The species are as follows:

Species I, Figure 1

Species II, Figures 2a and 2b

Species II, Figures 3a and 3b

Furthermore, if Species I, or II is elected, this application is subjected to an election of subspecies requirement as set forth below:

Divergent component 19 Sub-Species I, Figure 4a

Divergent component 19 Sub-Species II, Figure 4b

Divergent component 19 Sub-Species III, Figure 4c

Divergent component 19 Sub-Species IV, Figure 4d

If Species III is elected, this application is subjected to an election of subspecies requirement as set forth below:

Divergent component 50 Sub-Species I, Figure 5a

Divergent component 50 Sub-Species II, Figure 5b

Divergent component 50 Sub-Species III, Figure 5c

Divergent component 50 Sub-Species IV, Figure 5d

Divergent component 50 Sub-Species V, Figure 5e

Divergent component 50 Sub-Species VI, Figure 5f

Similarly, if Species I, II or III is elected; this application is subjected to an election of subspecies requirement as set forth below:

Convergent component 16 Sub-Species I, Figure 6a

Convergent component 16 Sub-Species I, Figure 6b

Convergent component 16 Sub-Species I, Figure 6c

Convergent component 16 Sub-Species I, Figure 6d

Applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single species to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The reply must also identify the claims readable on the elected species, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered non-responsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

2. The claims are deemed to correspond to the species listed above in the following manner: claims 18 and 19 to Species I and II; claim 20 to Species 20; claim 21 to Divergent component 19 Sub-Species I to IV of Figures 4a-4d; claim 22 to Divergent component 50 Sub-Species I to VI of Figures 5a-5f; Claim 25 to Convergent component 16 Sub-Species I, Figure 6a.

The following claim(s) are generic: 17.

3. The species listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: Species I having a

bicylindrical plug 21 with an upstream part 22, Species II having a plug 41 with a widened-out part 46 and a venturi 42, Species III having a divergent part 50.

4. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

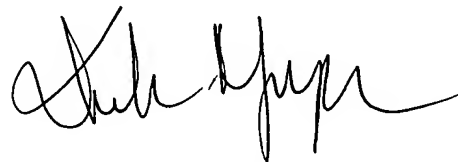
Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dinh Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-4907. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Scherbel can be reached on 571-272-4919. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Dinh Q Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3752

dqn